

2017 Office For Aging Annual Report Supplement



Washington County Office for Aging and
Disabilities Resource Center

Gina Cantanucci-Mitchell
Director



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Greetings,

It is with pleasure that I present to you Office for Aging and Disabilities Resource Center's 2017 Annual Report, a supplement to the extensive 2015 Annual Report. Included in this year's report is supporting data for 2017 programs that include both OFA and DSS. To view this year's Annual Report and prior Annual Reports, please visit our website.

The driving force behind what we do, is the Federal Older Americans Act (OAA). The Older Americans Act, originally enacted in 1965, supports a range of home and community-based services, such as home delivered meals and other nutrition programs, in-home services, transportation, legal services, elder abuse prevention, evidenced based health promotion programming, and caregiver support services. The Administration for Community Living (ACL) is the principal agency of the U.S Department of Health and Human Services designated to carry out the provisions of the Older Americans Act of 1965. The Act's funding for services is supplemented by Federal, State, and local funds. In New York State, the New York State Office for Aging is our oversight Agency.

In addition to what is offered under OAA, we implement several other programs and services, such as NY Connects under the Department of Health, Health Insurance Information and Assistance Program (HIICAP; aka SHIP under the Federal Government), and the Medicare Improvement for Patients and Providers Act (MIPPA) services. Through our collaborations and partnerships with many agencies, we also provide a multitude of local services and programs, like Emergency Planning, Friendly Visiting, Legal Services Initiative, and several public events.

If you would like to learn more about our programs and/or achievements, or would like to discuss the information provided in this report, please feel free to contact me. I would like to thank the Board of Supervisors for all of their support and the Office for Aging and Disabilities Resource Center employees for their commitment and dedication to serving individuals in Washington County.

Sincerely,

Gina Cantanucci-Mitchell
Executive Director



Washington County Office for Aging and Disabilities Resource Center

Washington County Office for Aging and Disabilities Resource Center (ADRC) is a collaborative effort between the Department of Social Services and the Office for the Aging, providing unbiased information and access to home and community based services for aging and disabled populations under the NYConnects Program.

ADRC is the designated Area Agency on Aging, operating all state and federally funded programs under the Older American Act.



The mission of Washington County Office for Aging and Disabilities Resource Center is the provision of unbiased education, information, referral and service to residents in need of emergency or long term home and community based supports. We meet identified needs in the most appropriate way, respecting individuals right to choose without regard to income.

Accounting

DSS/OFA Comparison of Expenditures to Revenue

2016 & 2017

	2016 Actual	2017 Actual
Administration	\$ 6,677,584	\$7,444,220
Includes salaries & on call or DSS, Equipment and Contractual Costs for DSS		
OFA Salaries & Equipment	\$ 292,499	\$ 324,614
Fringe Benefits DSS & OFA	\$ 2,725,076	\$ 2,823,959
Programs DSS & OFA	\$ 9,357,748	\$ 9,027,770
Total Cost to Administer Programs	\$19,052,907	\$19,620,563
Total Revenues	\$14,520,760	\$15,253,871
(State & Federal)		
Net Cost for DSS/OFA Programs	\$ 4,532,147	\$ 4,471,604
Medicaid Cost to County	\$11,191,314	\$10,989,160

Medicaid Cost Comparison

County Cost for 2017 Medicaid Benefits	\$ 10,989,160
Gross Value Medicaid Expenditures for Washington County Recipients (for all medical services provided in 2017)	\$124,146.695

NY CONNECTS

We are the designated NY Connects agency in Washington County. NY Connects is a statewide, locally based point of entry system that provides one stop access to free, objective and comprehensive Information and Assistance and Options Counseling/ Person Centered Counseling on long term services and supports for individuals of all ages.



In 2017, NY Connects staff actively participated in both regional and local committees consisting of NYSDOH, OASAS and OPWDD providers and leaders to enhance current partnerships and foster new connections in the region. The coordinated access to the many programs in the area is key to breaking down the barriers the community may encounter.

In 2017, we partnered with the Cambridge Valley Rescue Squads' Community Check and Mobile Healthcare Program for Public Education and Referral services. Community Check is a care transitional program operated by Emergency Medical Technician's and First Responders. Our agency provides support in the

form of information and assistance to front line workers when they are faced with navigational challenges in the world of health care and human services. Additionally, the Community Check program shares our programs and services through various public educational events.

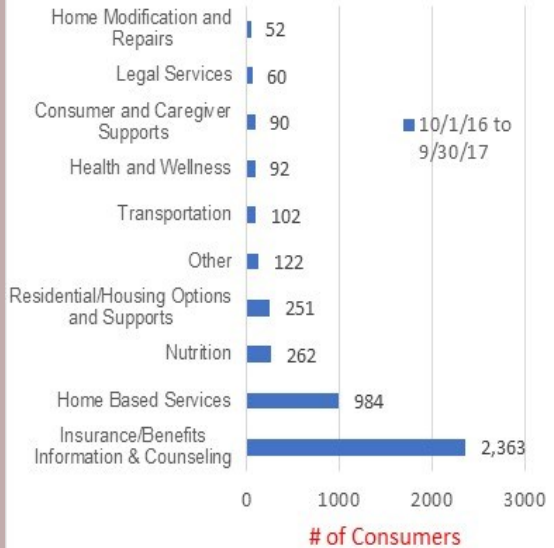
Statistics

SOURCE TYPE (TOP 3)

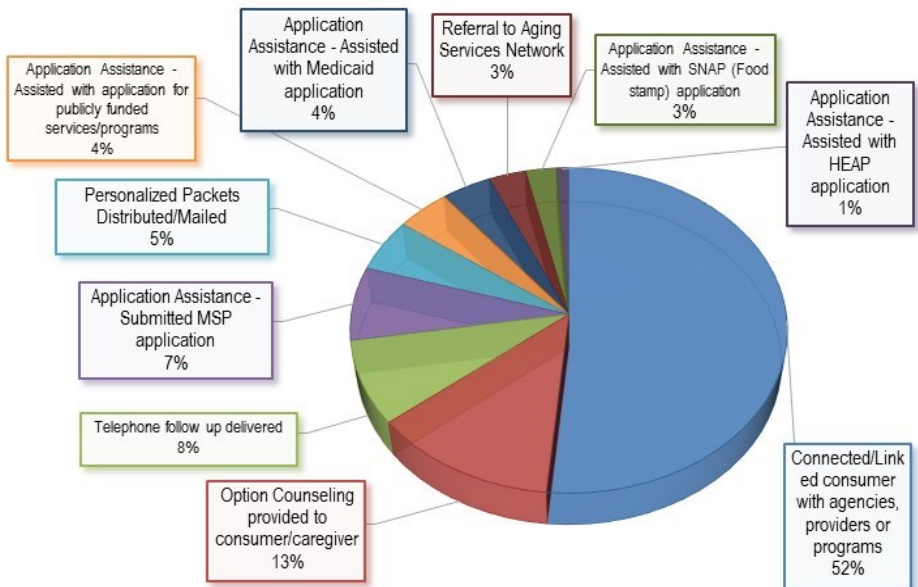
Self	2,853
Local Agency or Human Service Provider	988
Friend, Neighbor or Relative	381
Age 60 yrs of age or older	4,313
Age 59 years of age and younger	579

NY Connects

Information Requested (Top 10)



ASSISTANCE PROVIDED (TOP 10)





NY Connects
Your Link to Long Term
Services and Supports

Long Term Care Council

It is required that each NY Connects agency maintain a Long Term Care Council. It is the mission of the Long Term Care Council to objectively consider and evaluate the needs of county residents who are seeking long term care and assistance. The Council identifies gaps in the current service delivery system and makes recommendations to the NY Connects

agency related to program development and service implementation.

There are currently 221 members. The Executive Committee facilitates networking and educational events for the membership to keep current with issues affecting the community and to better serve their consumers.



2017 Key Topics

Bridges Out of Poverty Overview and Community Agency Activities Panel

- ♦ Washington County Bridges Team
- ♦ Adirondack Health Institute
- ♦ The Open Door Mission
- ♦ Crandall Public Library
- ♦ Schenectady Works
- ♦ Family Services Association
- ♦ Council for Prevention

Bridges Out of Poverty is a uniquely powerful tool designed for social, health, and legal services professionals. Bridges reaches out to millions of service providers and businesses whose daily work connects them with people in poverty.

North Country Health Issues and Services

- ♦ Adirondack Asthma Coalition
- ♦ Hamilton County Public Health
- ♦ Department of Social Services
- ♦ Southern Adirondack Independent Living Center
- ♦ Independent Consumer Advocacy Network

Transportation Presentation and Panel

- ♦ Adirondack/Glens Falls Transportation Council
- ♦ The Conkling Center
- ♦ Glens Falls Transit
- ♦ Retired Senior Volunteer Program
- ♦ Washington County EOC

Adirondack/Glens Falls Transportation Council shared information about the results of a survey which was completed recently. Rural mobility issues were discussed and the major challenges. Agencies shared information about their ride services

Community Resource Directories

- ♦ NY Connects
- ♦ Southern Adirondack Network Guide
- ♦ Tri-County United Way

Formal presentation of the NY Connects Resource Directory. Discussion of the vast resources that are maintained in the database that can be accessed online or in person at a NY Connects office. Discussion of other resource directories that are in progress or being updated.



Transportation

Transportation is a critical component in the array of services provided by Washington County's Office for Aging. Many older adults utilize the transportation services offered by the aging network to enable them to gain access to needed services and maintain their dignity, independence, and connection to their communities.

Transportation services, provided through a partnership with the Economic Opportunity Council (EOC), allow Washington County individuals age 60 and older to participate in programs, get to medical appointments, go grocery shopping, pick up prescriptions and reach other vital destinations while remaining independent in their own homes.

Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired

Washington County Office for Aging contracts with the Glens Falls Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired, Inc. to provide services to Washington County residents age 60 and older who are blind or visually impaired for the promotion of independent living in the community. Services include, but are not limited to, transportation,

Unduplicated Count of Individuals Served:

4/1/2016 – 3/31/2017: 121

4/1/2017 – 12/31/2017: 125

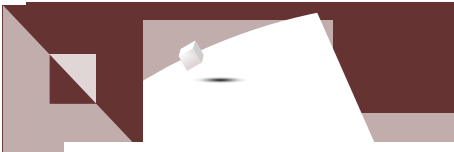
There is no fee for transportation services. However, a suggested donation is applied

adaptive living equipment and instruction, social activity, vision screenings, and information/assistance/referral services.

Unduplicated Count of Individuals Served:

4/1/16 - 3/31/17: 53

4/1/17 - 12/31/17: 42



SUNY Plattsburgh Alzheimer's Disease Caregiver Support Initiative /Center for Neurobehavioral Health

The ADRC collaborates with The Center for Neurobehavioral Health at SUNY Plattsburgh on a program to support caregivers. The Center for Neurobehavioral Health was awarded a 5-year grant of \$7.5 million as part of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo's Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Initiative. The program services include Education and Training, Respite, Project

Lifesaver, Care Consultations and Support Groups. The intention of this program is to increase services and supports to caregivers of a person with Alzheimer's Disease or another form of dementia to reduce caregiver burden.



In 2017, the Washington County Care Navigator completed 365 care consultations. 117 new caregivers were enrolled in the program to receive education, support and respite services. 73 care receivers (individuals with dementia) were assessed for the Project Lifesaver Program and 8 care receivers met the criteria to be enrolled in the program. In October 2017 Care Navigator established a Support Group and a Memory café; both group meet monthly in Washington County.



Health Promotion

Services and activities that promote chronic disease prevention and management, promote physical and mental health, improve or maintain quality of life, and increase awareness and understanding of healthy lifestyles.

In Washington County, we partner with the Alzheimer's Association to provide an evidenced based program to caregivers, called Savvy Caregiver. This is a multi session program that helps caregivers better understand the changes their loved ones are experiencing and how to best provide individual care for loved ones along the continued decline associated with Alzheimer's or other forms of dementia.

**In 2017
10
Caregivers
Completed the
Savvy
Caregiver**

Tai Chi

In 2017, OFA initiated an MOU with Washington County Public Health for the implementation of an evidenced based program called Tai Chi for Arthritis. Tai Chi is an ancient Chinese practice of slow, continuous, whole body movements, strung together in a "form." Like dance, the movements are learned and followed one after another, in a

In 2017, we achieved the following:

January: Greenwich – 21 people served

January: Kingsbury – 11 people served

May: Mettowee Valley Srs – 11 people served

May: Fort Edward – 8 People served

September: Salem – 24 people served

September: Granville – 12 people served

particular order. Tai Chi has been shown to increase strength, flexibility, sense of wellbeing, and balance. It has also shown to decrease pain in joints, stress, high blood pressure, falls and fall risks.

Health Insurance Information, Counseling and Assistance (HIICAP)

Do you have questions about Medicare or your health insurance?

HIICAP provides free, accurate and objective information, counseling, assistance and advocacy on Medicare, private health insurance, and related health coverage plans.

HIICAP helps people with Medicare, their representatives, or persons soon to be eligible for Medicare. The answers to your questions are just a free phone call away.

Our certified Medicare Counselors take their time with each person to educate them about their options, as well as, screen them for the Medicare Savings Program, Low Income Subsidy and EP-IC. These programs provide great discounts toward their prescription needs.

*Over the past year we
have helped Medi-
care recipients save
over \$560,865.13*

Health and Wellness Fall Festival

This past year we held our annual Health Insurance/Wellness Fall Festival on October 4, 2017 at the Kingsbury Firehouse. We had 241 seniors attend the event. The Medicare Open Enrollment brings lots of questions for existing and new recipients of Medicare. We had many health insurance representatives there to answer questions about their plans for 2018.



We introduced a new format for our annual event. It was much more interactive with live presentations and an outdoor vendor fair. It was a huge success with **241** participants! We kicked it up a notch and added a lunch to go with a fall-themed menu including: Kielbasa with sauerkraut, German Potato Salad, Perogies and Apple Crisp.

We partnered with Senator Betty Little, Public Health, Council of Seniors, Sheriff's Office and several other agencies. Additionally, we had a live on site radio broadcast with WCKM.

Highlights of the Event Included

- ◆ Medicare Insurance Options
- ◆ Workshops
- ◆ Flu and Pneumonia shot clinic
- ◆ Car Fit Program
- ◆ Tai Chi
- ◆ Various Local Vendors
- ◆ Entertainment
- ◆ Raffles





Personal Care Services

OFA Personal Care Services (Non Medicaid Services)

OFA contracts with several home care agencies to provide Level 1 and Level 2 in-home personal care assistance for Washington County residents age 60 and older who do NOT qualify for Medicaid.

This is a case managed program that enables many frail older adults to remain in their home. The goal is to improve access to cost effective, non-medical in-home services and supports for non-Medicaid older adults who have functional impairments in the area of their activities of daily living.

2017 Statistics	Unduplicated Count of People
Personal Care	74
Consumer Directed Personal Care	25

Consumer Directed Personal Care

Office For Aging Consumer Directed Personal Care is a system in which the individual in need of care, or their family determine what services are necessary. They do the decision making. It is a creative way to enable older American's to maintain their independence and dignity by making their own choices in the services they receive by directing their own care. The program also enhances the ability of family members or other informal caregivers to care for an older person in a home environment and can provide non-institutional respite supports.



DSS Medicaid Personal Care Services

For Medicaid-eligible persons, local social services districts contract with home-care agencies that employ aides to provide Medicaid funded personal care services such as housekeeping, meal preparation, bathing, toileting, and grooming. The local social services office then notifies the individual of the services that will be provided and the need for services is reassessed approximately every six months. New York State oversees the local social services districts' administration of the program.

2017 Statistics

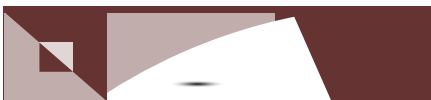
Personal Care Assistance	4
Consumer Directed Personal Care Assistance	72
Care at Home	4

In-Home Contact and Support

Services and Activities designed to provide support to older people who are isolated because of physical and/or cognitive limitations. In Washington County, these services are provided for Caregiver Support.

These Services include but not limited to: shopping assistance, friendly visiting and errands. In 2017, we served 7 people.





OFA Personal Emergency Response (PERS)

OFA contracts with the Glens Falls Hospital's Medical Alert Program. This service is provided to Washington County residents age 60 and older for the utilization of an electronic device to alert appropriate people of the need for immediate assistance in the event of an emergency situation.

48 people were served in 2017



OFA Social Adult Day Services

A structured comprehensive program which provides functionally impaired individuals with socialization, supervision and monitoring, personal care and nutrition in a protective setting during any part of the day, but for less than a 24 hour period.

OFA contract with Holbrooks Adult Home, Fort Hudson and Danforth for Social Adult Day Services.

12 people were served in 2017



OFA Caregiver Support Services

Funding for these services are designed to support informal caregivers such as family, friends and neighbors of all ages to carry out caregiving responsibilities. Through this program, we provide information and assistance, support groups, respite, transportation, Level 1 and Level 2 personal care assistance, personal emergency response services and social adult day services.

DSS Adult Protection Services (APS)

APS is a program serving adults, 18 or older, who may be in need of protective services because:

- ♦ They have a physical or mental impairment;
- ♦ They can no longer protect themselves from neglect, abuse, or hazardous situations;
- ♦ They cannot provide for their most basic needs; for food, clothing, shelter or medical care; and
- ♦ They have no one willing or able to help in a responsible manner.

APS can provide services to strengthen an adult's ability to live in the community as long as possible.

Referrals made to APS are kept confidential and cannot be released to the public.



World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD) is held annually on June 15th. On that day, communities in the USA and all over the world will sponsor events to highlight the growing tragic issue of elder abuse.

2017 Service Statistics

Referrals	146
Investigations	120
Representative Payee Cases	30
Guardianship Cases	9

Legal Services

Washington County Office for Aging partners with the Legal Aid Society of Northeastern New York for the provision of legal services for Washington County residents age 60 and older. Services are provided by a licensed Attorney and include, but are not limited to, development of Wills and Trusts, Power of Attorney, Health Care Proxy's, Financial Exploitation, Public Benefits, Housing Issues, and Bankruptcy.

Unduplicated Count of Individuals Served:

4/1/16 - 3/31/17: 41

4/1/17 – 12/31/17: 31

*There is no fee for Legal services.
However, a suggested donation is
applied*

Legal Services Initiative

In 2017, based on a research project that included statewide surveys and a 105 member consultative Think Group, Washington County Office for Aging and Disability Resource Center was honorably chosen to participate in a NY State Legal Services Initiative, led by the New York State Office for Aging.

One major finding from the research project was a strong need for educating older adults, individuals with disabilities, caregivers, and community provider agencies (social, long-term care, and health) about civic legal topics, residents' legal rights, legal processes, court and administrative hearing protocols, where/how to find legal assistance, alternative options for providing legal services in order to expand residents' access to affordable legal help, and other subjects. As the number of caregivers, older adults, and individuals with disabilities continues to increase in our com-

munities, the lack of awareness and understanding about these and other topics will have a growing impact on the ability of community residents to handle challenges in their daily lives effectively and successfully.

In 2017, our office partnered with the Southern Adirondack Independent Living Center and provided the following programs at the Greenwich Public Library:


- June: Financial Exploitation and Elder Abuse
- July: Mediation
- August: Landlord/Tenant Laws
- September: IEP's and Rights of Education for Disabled Children
- October: Long Term Care and Medicaid Planning
- November: Advanced Planning Directives
- December: Right to an Attorney and the Individuals Rights and Responsibilities

Nutrition Services

Home Delivered Meals

“Meals on Wheels”

Home delivered meals, also recognized as “Meals on Wheels”, provides a hot meal 5 days a week to Washington County individuals 60 years of age or older, and to a caregiver who is caring for that older adult. Nutritionally balanced meals approved by a Registered Dietitian are delivered to older adults that are unable to prepare their own meals.



Currently, we have 13 meal routes and approximately 300 meals are delivered on a daily basis.

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>
# of Meals	68,295	70,898	67,814
Unduplicated Count of People Served	526	573	572





Restaurant Dining

The Restaurant Dining Program is a partnership between the Washington County Office for the Aging and local restaurants. The program has been a huge success due to the generous and compassionate attitude of the owners and staff of

In 2017

157 registered participants of the Restaurant Dining Program were served 2,934 meals

these restaurants. Each participating restaurant offers a unique Senior Dining Menu, which provides a variety of delicious and nutritious food. You must be 60+ and live in Washington County to register in the program.

2017 Participating Restaurants

Latham's Diner -
Hudson Falls

Sally's Hen House
Hudson Falls

Christ the King Spiritual Center
Greenwich

China Wok Restaurant
Whitehall

AJ'S Restaurant
Granville

Seeley's
Fort Edward

What's Cookin
(2 locations)
Hartford



Senior Dining Sites

Washington County has four Senior Dining Sites where seniors can meet for socialization, information and creative entertainment as well as obtaining a nutritionally balanced, dietician approved, delicious meal. The sites offer a variety of activities and fun programs daily. An array of speakers are invited on a regular basis to present programs that educate and promote healthy lifestyles for aging adults. Our Site Managers are a link between the seniors in our county and available services through the Office for the Aging.

We served 166 people with a total of 11,162 meals at the senior dining sites in 2017.

Cambridge Senior Center

Manager: Cathie Brownell/Joanne Dyke
(518) 677-8592
5 Park Place, Cambridge

Salem Senior Site

Manager: Beth Cope
St. Paul's Rectory
(518) 854-7294
32 East Broadway, Salem

The Senior Center of the Kingsbury & Ft. Edward Area

Manager: Max McDonnell
(518) 747-9352
78 Oak St., Hudson Falls

Whitehall Senior Site

Manager: Hellin LeClaire
American Legion
(518) 499-2482
148 Main St., Whitehall

A Fond Farewell

A Fond Farewell

The Salem Senior Dining site has a long history of providing a warm and friendly atmosphere to individuals over the age of 60. It was a welcoming place to go for information on current events, senior programming, entertainment, and a delicious noontime meal. In 2017, a tough decision was made to close the Salem Senior Dining site. Making a decision like this is never taken lightly. There were many steps taken prior to closing the Salem location that included sending out over 500 surveys to Salem residents over the age of 60 and facilitating a community forum/discussion. In the end, the community's voices were heard. In today's active society, having a Senior Dining site open Monday through Friday, from 10am-2pm, no longer fits into the Salem residents' schedules. The great news is that Salem Seniors are living active lifestyles and their schedules are kept busy. In hearing all of this, Office for Aging is going on a different journey. Office for Aging has decided to continue to offer Senior programming and delicious and nutritious meals, but in a different fashion. Our newly employed Meal Site Manager, Cait Johnston, will still be providing meals, programming and entertainment to the Salem community. The locations, dates, and times will vary, based on the Salem Community's needs. In conclusion, we are sad to see the end of the Salem Senior Dining site era, but we are extremely excited to start our new adventure.



Our New Adventure

“Pop Up” Events

In 2017 we have come up with a new and exciting way to reach out to our Aging Population in the form of “Pop-Up” events.

In October 2017, we hired a new Meal Site Manager Caitlin Johnston with the unofficial title of “Pop-Up Events” Coordinator. We have put Caitlin in a position to be a non-traditional Meal Site Manager. She has been planning and executing Nutrition Program and Outreach events all over Washington County, that include events that educate, entertain and promote healthy lifestyles for aging adults.

This position gives us the opportunity to come face to face with more individuals in our aging population by bringing our services to them instead of waiting for them to come to us.



Community “Pop Up” Events:



- 11/1/17 – Argyle Senior Club
20 meals served
- 11/2/17 - Granville Senior Club
42 meals served
- 11/15/17 - Greenwich Senior Club
32 meals served
- 12/15/17 - “Brunch with a Cop”
Salem Meal Site
18 meals served
- 12/20/17 - “Holiday Dinner” at the
Cossayuna Fire House
30 meals served
- 12/21/17 – Salem Senior Club
13 meals served



Nutrition Counseling

Personalized guidance to individuals who are at nutritional risk because of their health or nutrition history, dietary intake, chronic illnesses, or medications use.

Counseling is provided one on one by a Registered Dietician, who evaluates the person's nutritional needs, develops and implements a nutrition counseling plan, evaluates the consumers outcome, maintains documentation and distributes appropriate

In 2017, 130 benefited from Nutrition Counseling

literature.

Washington County OFA contracts with Kristin Stewart for Registered Dietitian Services. To qualify, you must be a Washington County resident age 60 or older.

Nutrition Education

A planned program to promote better nutrition, physical fitness and health through information and instruction on nutrition and related consumer topics of general interest. The program is provided by or under the direction of our Registered Dietitian (RD). Information and instruction may occur in group

We serve approximately 1,295 individuals and share our information with over 250 Washington County organizations, employers and businesses.

settings and/or through distribution of materials to individuals.



Managed Long Term Care Organizations

OFA is talking BUSINESS.....

Office for Aging engages in formal agreements with Washington County's Managed Long Term Care Organizations for the service provision of Home Delivered Meals. This business action provides OFA with revenue funding to supplement the Nutrition Program that resulted in \$6,919 being brought into the agency.



Senior Center Recreation and Education

Activities organized and scheduled through OFA or our subcontractors which involve older persons in courses, workshops, other learning activities and satisfying use of free time.

Some examples of those activities include: Yoga, line dancing, a variety of games, Wii bowling, Zumba, crafts, Performing Arts and day trips.

FARMERS MARKET

The New York State Farmers Market Nutrition Program provides coupons for income eligible individuals, age 60 and over. From July 1 to September 30th Farmers Market Coupon Booklets are available through the Washington County Office for Aging. The coupons are used to purchase locally grown veggies and fruits from local farmers at Farmers Markets throughout the county. In 2017, 469 coupon booklets were distributed.

Special Needs Registry

Individuals residing in Washington County who feel as though they are in need of special assistance in the event of severe weather, prolonged power outage, flooding, or evacuation can be placed on a special needs registry. This Registry is maintained and accessed by Office for Aging staff. Services are coordinated with Public Safety and other emergency management services. At this time, there are 30 Washington County residents on the Special Needs Registry.

Washington County Town Supervisors for Meals

On April 4th, 2017, several Town Supervisors and Washington County's Administrator took time out of their busy schedules to take a tour of our central kitchen and deliver delicious meals for the Office for Aging's Home Delivered Meals (aka Meals on Wheels) program. Special Thanks goes out to the following:

- Robert Henke of Argyle
- Sara Idleman of Greenwich
- Dana Hogan of Kingsbury
- George Gang of Dresden
- George Armstrong of Whitehall
- Matthew Hicks of Granville
- Brian Campbell of Hebron
- Daniel Shaw of Easton
- Chris DeBolt, County Administrator

Office for Aging Recognizes Nutrition Program Volunteers

In conjunction with the observance of National Volunteer Week, Washington County Office for Aging and Disability Resource Center took the opportunity to celebrate the dedication and hard work of the senior Dining Site volunteers who provide critical support for our Nutrition Program. On April 28th, the four senior dining sites were closed and everyone was invited to come together at the Cos-sayuna Firehouse to celebrate volunteers who have made our Nutrition Program a great success. Office for Aging staff served a delicious lunch to 67 senior dining site members and volunteers. We were joined by Salem Town Supervisor Seth Pitts, Whitehall Town Supervisor George Armstrong, and Greenwich Town Supervisor Sara Idleman. Our Special Guest, New York State Assemblywoman Carrie Woerner, recognized the nutrition volunteers by presenting individuals with certificates. In addition, Office for Aging Director Gina Cantanucci-Mitchell spoke about the benefits of volunteering and gave special recognition to one volunteer at each dining site. We would like to thank the following volunteers:



Cambridge Sr. Center

Helen Decker
(Lifetime Recognition)
Bill Carroll
Delores Mullen
Nancy Parker
Carol Hamilton
Martha Waite
Laura Woodcock

Kingsbury /Ft. Edward Area Sr Center

Mary Woodard
(Lifetime Recognition)
Lola Williams
April Marine
JoJo DeVecchi
Irene Field

Salem Sr. Dining Site

Jane Salisbury
(Lifetime Recognition)
Sharon Bain
Kathy Roby
Rosalyn Lyons

Whitehall Sr. Dining Site

Dominic Valastro
(Lifetime Recognition)
Dorothy Valastro
(Lifetime Recognition)
Ralph Porter
Clara Lipka
Shirley Moricette

Medicare Improvement for Patients and Providers Act (MIPPA)

On July 15, 2008, Congress enacted the Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act of 2008 (MIPPA), Pub. Law 110-275. MIPPA is a multi-faceted piece of legislation containing several important provisions that directly changed the Medicare program and allocated federal for State Health Insurance Assistance Programs (SHIPs), Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs), and Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRCs) to provide outreach to low-income Medicare beneficiaries to increase enrollment in Medicare low-income assistance programs.



MIPPA

Over the past year we have educated thousands of individuals about the eligibility criteria for Medicare low-income assistance programs. In 2017, we have been able to assist 359 individuals with the Medicare Savings Program applications and 23 individuals with Low Income Subsidy applications.



Office for Aging Advisory Council

The development and implementation of services within the Office for Aging is based on local needs and available resources. To ensure local input, Washington County Office for Aging has an Advisory Council.

The OFA Advisory Council is required under the Older American Act. The Advisory Council is mostly composed of older adults, appointed by Supervisors from each town in Washington County, representatives from senior groups and community providers. The Advisory Council reviews current aging programs and services and makes recommendations for additional programming to meet local needs.



2017 Advisory Council Representatives

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| * Argyle - Carol Kuhr | * Kingsbury -Sandy Wheeler |
| * Cambridge—Carol Hamilton | * Putnam -Open |
| * Dresden— Open | * Salem -Dave McNitt |
| * Easton— Judith Stevens | * White Creek - Carol Hamilton |
| * Fort Ann—Gretchen Stark | * Whitehall -Pat Provost |
| * Fort Edward—Marcia Sullivan | * At Large Members |
| * Granville—Carol McGivern | Mary Ann Nichols -V. Pres. |
| * Greenwich -Gerald Foelsch | Pat Cantanucci |
| * Hampton -Susan Perry | Antonia Estrada |
| * Hartford -Lettie Hayes | * Kingsbury/FE Sr. Center—Max |
| * Hebron -Alice Coldwell | McDonnell- President |
| * Jackson -Sharon Dunn | * Public Health—Patty Hunt |
| | * Dept. of Social Services - |
| | Tammy DeLorme/Jodie Smith |



Washington County Senior Citizen Clubs

Office for Aging works in close collaboration with all of the Senior Citizen Clubs throughout Washington County

Argyle Senior Citizens Club - *Loanne Bain*

Cambridge Valley Seniors Club - *Delores Mullen*

Fort Ann Queen Anne Seniors - *Sally Walker*

Granville Mettowee Valley - *Lois Warner*

Greenwich Senior Citizens - *Larry Wilbur*

Hartford Fifty Plus Sr. Citizens - *Karen Harrington*

Kingsbury/Ft. Edward Seniors - *Max McDonnell*

Putnam Senior Outreach - *Joan Rock*

Salem Area Senior Citizens - *Beverly Hay*

Whitehall Senior Citizens Club - *Virginia Currier*

In partnership with the Washington County Council of Seniors, OFA supported two Council of Seniors luncheons located in Hartford.

Spring Luncheon— 154 meals served

Fall Luncheon - 185 meals served



Senior of the Year for Washington County Clubs

On May 12, 2017 each club recognized a senior citizen from their area for Senior of the Year. A celebration luncheon was held at the Kingsbury Firehouse that served 192 meals.



Argyle Senior Citizens

Marion Brennan

Cambridge Senior Citizens

Carol Hamilton

Granville Senior Citizens

Kay Myer

Greenwich Senior Citizens

Eileen DeNisio

Hartford Senior Citizens

Karen Harrington

Hudson Falls/Ft. Edward Area Seniors

Phoebe Gannon

Queen Ann Seniors

Susan Allen

Salem Seniors

Nancy Clark

Whitehall

William Lawrence



You Should Also Know that in 2017....

Public Hearing

In October, Office for Aging facilitated a Public Hearing with approximately 185 in attendance. Individuals were allowed to give feedback either verbally or in writing. A summary of the testimonials is as follows:

Summary of Testimonials is as follows:

- ◆ The speaker system was not loud enough
- ◆ Seniors too often could use OFA services, but do not know about them. Communities need to have periodic educational forums that their family members could attend and learn about the programs offered.
- ◆ OFA services are excellent.
- ◆ Great Job
- ◆ Speaker system never works well.
- ◆ Impressed with the quality of the presentation of services.
- ◆ Everyone is so helpful.
- ◆ Very good programs—lots of good info
- ◆ You listened to our request for cranberry sauce—thank you.
- ◆ Too many people seated at one table –makes it too crowded to eat comfortably.
- ◆ There is no one to serve our meals –seniors have to do it, serve the food and clean up. (we believe this was in regards to the Senior Center of Kingsbury/Fort Edward)



Outreach to the Public

Office for Aging and Disabilities Resource Center engages in several outreach events on a regular basis throughout the year. This includes monthly mass mailings of current and important information to over 259 businesses, religious organizations, medical providers, employers, etc. In addition, we make outreach phone calls to Washington County residents that are over the age of 60 and also provide numerous presentations about the services we provide to various groups.

Office for Aging and Disability Resource Center maintains an information center that is designed specifically for disseminating current information to our community members. Many brochures, flyers and information packets are available to the public.



We have been invited by Judy Leech from WVNR-WNYV radio to conduct live broadcastings once a month on various topics that touch on the lives of aging adults.



SENIOR TIMES

In partnership with Manchester Papers, OFA publishes a quarterly newspaper that focuses on current topics and needs of individuals over the age of 60. This newspaper keeps individuals up to date on the latest information including program updates, upcoming events, and senior club news.



Collaborations

Office for Aging and Disabilities Resource Center staff serve on many coalitions and committees. To include the RSVP Advisory Council, the Adirondack Rural Health Network, the Adirondack Health Institutes DSRIP project, Council for Prevention's Suicide Coalition, Catholic Charities Domestic Violence Project, Public Health's Healthy Communities Coalition, Washington County's Emergency Operation Center, Public Safety's CEPA team, Public Health's Bio-terrorism Team, Inter-Agency Council, and the Community Action Agency's Rural Impact County Challenge and other community action meetings/coalitions.

Washington Correctional Facility

Office for Aging partners with our local prison to provide wood as an additional fuel source supplement to Washington County seniors who are HEAP beneficiaries.

In 2017, we partnered to provide a nutritious food basket to seniors during the Holiday Season.

The ADRC has worked in partnership with the Washington County Veteran's Administration to provide free transportation as part of our recreation and education programs. By using the Veteran's Van, when it hasn't been in use, we've been able to take the seniors on the following local excursions that included a fun recreational activity and a delicious and healthy meal.

- ♦ April 2017 - Whitehall to the Volunteer Recognition Luncheon in Cossayuna - Cambridge Seniors to Kenyon Hill Farm
- ♦ May 2017 - Whitehall Seniors to Kenyon Hill Farm
- ♦ July 2017 - Whitehall Seniors to the Washington County Fair-
- ♦ September 2017 - Cambridge Seniors to the Shushan Covered Bridge Museum
- ♦ October 2017 - Cambridge Seniors to Hick's Orchard
- ♦ December 2017 - Whitehall Seniors to Hick's Orchard

Inter-generational Event

In partnership with the Argyle School Drama Club and the Student Council, we facilitated an intergenerational dinner theater event on April 27th at the Argyle School. We had 75 individuals enjoying an evening that included Turkey "DIE-VAN" (sliced turkey, broccoli, cheese sauce) Tossed Salad w/ Vinaigrette Dressing, Sweet Potatoes, "DEATH" by Chocolate Cake w/cherries and whipped topping dinner and a viewing of the play "Axe of Murder".



When you bring together the seniors and a group of kids there seems to always be smiles all around. A few of our events last year included;

- ♦ Salem school kids trick-or-treating at the Salem Meal Site
- ♦ Kayla Stewart playing guitar in Salem
- ♦ Student volunteers helping serve meals at the Cambridge Senior Site
- ♦ The Holiday Extravaganza at the Cossayuna Firehouse with Girl Scouts singing Holiday Carols





2017 Events

NY State Senior of the Year Recognition

In May, our office, as well as the New York State Office for the Aging, recognized Patricia Gould from Fort Ann and Christine Jones from Hartford as Washington County Seniors of the Year given their dedication and commitment to volunteerism and civic engagement.



Pat volunteers in various capacities. She enjoys taking food to residents that are housebound and spending time visiting with them. Pat also finds the time to go visit patients that are in nursing homes, rehab or in the hospital.

Pat is always available for various opportunities when it comes to helping people. Some of her achievements include: donating hats and mittens to help with the Fort Ann School's weekend food back pack program through the Family Outreach Center, preparing health kits and flood buckets to send to help people in disaster areas through her church. Pat also went to another church to help make sandwiches for their Lenten luncheons. She also collects food for local food pantries and attends the Methodist Church's Annual Troy Conference.

In addition she sells tickets for dinners, participates in bake sales, raises money for a variety of events, and in the past, had helped to make pies during holiday seasons to make money for the fire departments' support group.



Chris has volunteered in some form her whole life starting with Sunday school and the Youth Commission. After retirement Chris volunteered in the Junior Achievement Program at Hartford School for four years in the fifth grade and enjoyed working with the students and teachers. She is an active volunteer in her church in many areas as well as helping with church dinners and singing in the church choir. Chris is the Secretary of the Council of Churches in her community. As President of the Hartford

Firehouse Auxiliary she assists in fundraisers, pancake breakfast events and in any capacity wherever she is needed. In her daily busy schedule, she will always find time to drive friends and neighbors of the community who needs transportation to and from the senior citizens meetings, grocery shopping, medical appointments, or just to sit and visit with them.

Chris shared that she loves helping children and seniors. She stated that there is not much for kids to do in a small rural town. Chris feels that one of her greatest achievements is the activities that bring the kids together. When she drives by the school and see's all the children involved in the activities it brings her great joy.

Annual Senior Citizen Picnic

On Friday, July 14, 2017 our annual picnic was held at the Washington County Fairgrounds. This year over 400 people were in attendance. Some of the seniors formed teams to compete against each other in various games. In addition to the games, we had entertain-

ment provided by Ginny Allen's line dancing group and the Moreau Fun Band.

A special "Thank You" to our Washington County Board of Supervisors, Elected Officials and volunteers who helped us make this day a big success



Washington County Employee's Contribute Monthly to Different Charities

	2017		
January	Employee Recognition Fund	\$310.00	
February	CPS Incidental Fund	\$290.00	
March	Make-A-Wish	\$345.00	
April	Tanya Crosier Scholarship Fund	\$230.00	
May	Preventive Incidental Fund	\$275.00	
June	Adirondack Vets House	\$210.00	
July	SPCA	\$100.00	
August	Haynes House of Hope	\$225.00	
September	Food Pantry/Hygiene Products	\$232.00	
October	Argyle Thanksgiving FEAST	\$235.00	
November	WAIT House	\$215.00	
December	Toy Drive	\$70.00	+ Toys
	2017 TOTAL	\$2,737.00	

Cookies for Seniors

The December Holidays always bring out the spirit of generosity. This year the employees of OFA and DSS contributed over 100 dozen cookies which were then bagged & paired with cards from local school children and distributed to 315 shut ins, veterans and homeless families.



Holiday Toy Drive

Several bins of toys were donated by employee's in 2017 for use by the children and adults of Washington County

Employee Event

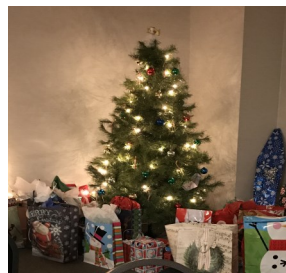
Employee Appreciation Holiday Event

While our employees are appreciated 365 days a year, the Department plans for a specific celebration of our employees in the spring and fall. Buffet luncheons are always a hit and activities are planned to honor the staff. This year we held a pumpkin decorating contest between unit. We found out we have lots of creative talent in the house!



Our Annual Employee Appreciation Holiday Event

Our Annual Employee Holiday Event was a great success! The theme was Candy Land / Santa's Workshop. Employees made and donated the decorations. Employees paid for a catered turkey lunch from the Sheriff's Department which was delicious! Thanks to all Social Service employees, this event was a great way to start the holiday season!



All Cover Photos Taken In Washington County
Courtesy of DSS Employees



For additional copies of this report and/or for a
copy of the more detailed 2015 annual report
please view the following web address:

<http://washingtoncountyny.gov/148/Office-for-the-Aging>